

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 01383 260912Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7793
INFO AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SANA PRIORITY

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 1383

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, DJ, SO, ET, US

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY ACCUES US OF SCHEMING TO ASSIST
SOMALIA IN ANNEXATION OF DJIBOUTI

REF: ADDIS ABABA 1382

AUTHORITATIVE ETHIOPIAN HEALD OF MARCH 26 CARRIES MOFA ACCU-
SATION OF US PLANS TO ASSIST SOMALIA IN ANNEXATION OF DJIBOUTI
IN LEAD ARTICLE HEADLINED, "AMERICA'S COMPLICITY IN THE PLOT TO
ANNEX DJIBOUTI TO SOMALIA EXPOSED." FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF
STATEMENT MADE MARCH 25 BY MOFA SPOKESMAN:

"THE WHOLE WORLD IS FAMILIAR WITH THE EXPANSIONIST OBJECTIVE
OF SOMALIA AND THERE IS NO NEED FOR FURTHER ELABORATION. HER
FUTILE ATTEMPTS TO TAKE BY FORCE THE SOUTH-EASTERN PART OF
ETHIOPIA IS THE LATEST PROOF, IF ANY PROOF IS NEEDED, OF SOMA-
LIA'S VIRULENT IRREDENTISM WHICH MUST BE OPPOSED VIGOROUSLY
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BY ALL PEACE-LOVING STATES AND PEOPLES.

"NOW THAT SOMALIA'S EXPANSIONIST PLANS REGARDING SOUTH-EASTERN
ETHIOPIA HAVE FAILED MISERABLY LEAVING SIAD BARRE WITH A DEEP
DOMESTIC POLITICAL CRISIS, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED
STATES WITH A VIEW TO BAILING OUT SOMALIA'S DICTATOR, HAS EM-
BARKED UPON A SCHEME WHICH IS FRAUGHT WITH GARVE CONSEQUENCES.

ACCORDING TO INFORMATION FROM RELIABLE SOURCES, THE UNITED STATES IS TO ASSIST THE MOGADISHO REGIME IN CREATING THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR THE ANNEXATION, IN SOME FASHION, OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI BY SOMALIA. IT HAS NOW BEEN LEARNED THAT THE SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN MOGADISHO THIS WEEK BETWEEN SIAD BARRE AND A HIGH-LEVEL US DELEGATION LED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS, RICHARD MOOSE, HAVE CENTERED ON THE FURTHER REFINEMENT OF THIS DEVIANT SCHEME. WASHINGTON HOPES THAT THE ACQUISITION OF DJIBOUTI BY MOGADISHO WILL CREATE A FACE-SAVING DEVICE FOR ITS PUPPET, SIAD BARRE, WHO HAD DISPATCHED THOUSANDS OF SOMALIS ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE IN SOUTH-EASTERN ETHIOPIA WHERE THEY ENCOUNTERED A HUMILIATING DEFEAT.

"IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT ON 15 MARCH 1978 PRESIDENT CARTER ANNOUNCED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF US ARMS TO SOMALIA WAS CONTINGENT UPON THE RENUNCIATION OF CLAIMS BY SOMALIA ON THE TERRITORIES OF ETHIOPIA AND KENYA. IN THIS AS WELL AS IN SUBSEQUENT STATEMENTS BY THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE REGARDING SOMALIA'S RENUNCIATION OF CLAIMS ON THE TERRITORIES OF NEIGHBOURING STATES, ANY REFERENCE TO DJIBOUTI AND SOMALIA'S CLAIM TO IT HAS BEEN CURIOUSLY, BUT CONSISTENTLY MISSING.

"THE PREVAILING SITUATION IN DJIBOUTI ITSELF IS ALSO A MATTER FOR SERIOUS CONCERN. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE U.S. DE-
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SIGNS TO HAND DJIBOUTI TO SOMALIA ON A SILVER PLATTER HAS ITS ARDENT SUPPORTERS WITHIN THE FEW GROUPS IN DJIBOUTI, WHICH ARE DELIBERATELY PLANTED BY SOMALIA AND ITS ALLIES. THESE ELEMENTS WHICH ARE PROMOTING THE INTERESTS OF SOMALIA AND ITS IMPERIALIST ALLIES ARE NOW PLANNING TO ELIMINATE OR AT LEAST PARALYZE POLITICALLY ALL THE PATRIOTIC ELEMENTS WITHIN THE COUNTRY SO THAT CONTROL OF THE STATE WILL FALL TOTALLY INTO THE HANDS OF SOME QUISLINGS, WHO WILL THEN HELP REALIZE THE SOMALI-AMERICAN DESIGN. THE TASK OF PHYSICALLY ELIMINATING THE PATRIOTIC ELEMENTS IN DJIBOUTI, BY FIRST CREATING INTER-COMMUNAL CONFLICTS, WHICH WILL PROVIDE THEM WITH A PRETEXT, HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE REMNANTS OF THE SOMALIA ARMY, WHICH HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MOVE TO DJIBOUTI WITH THEIR ARMS AFTER THEIR DEFEAT IN THE OGADEN.

"BECAUSE OF THESE PUZZLING AND UNHEALTHY TRENDS OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION, IT HAS BECOME NECESSARY TO RE-STATE ONCE AGAIN ETHIOPIA'S LONG-STANDING POSITION ON THIS MATTER. ETHIOPIA CONSIDERS THE CONTINUED INDEPENDENT EXISTENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI, AS IT IS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED, TO BE VITAL FOR THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF THE HORN OF AFRICA. ETHIOPIA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CARDINAL PRINCIPLES OF THE UN, OAU CHARTER

AND NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND IN COLLABORATION WITH THE FREEDOM-
LOVING PEOPLES OF DJIBOUTI, AFRICA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD
WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO SEE TO IT THAT THE INDEPENDENCE
AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF DJIBOUTI IS PRESERVED".
MATHERON

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